



## COACHES CODE OF CONDUCT

Coaches are key to the establishment of ethics in football. Their concept of ethics and their attitude directly affects the behaviour of players under their supervision. Coaches are, therefore, expected to pay particular care to the moral aspect of their conduct.

Coaches have to be aware that almost all of their everyday decisions and choices of actions, as well as strategic targets, have ethical implications.

It is natural that winning constitutes a basic concern for coaches. This code is not intended to conflict with that. However, the code calls for coaches to disassociate themselves from a win-at-all-costs attitude.

Coaches should:

- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of each and every person and treat each equally in the context of the sport.
- Place the well being and safety of each player above all other considerations, including the development of performance.
- Adhere to all guidelines laid down by governing bodies.
- Develop an appropriate working relationship with each player based on mutual trust and respect.
- Encourage and guide players to accept responsibility for their own behaviour and performance.
- Ensure that the activities they direct or advocate are appropriate for the age, maturity, experience and ability of the players.
- At the outset, clarify with the players (and where appropriate with the parent) exactly what is expected of them and also what they are entitled to expect from the coach.
- Cooperate fully with other specialists (e.g. other coaches, officials, sports scientists, doctors, physiotherapists) in the best interest of the player.
- Always promote the positive aspect of the sport (e.g. fair play).
- Constantly display high standards of behaviour and appearance.
- Understand the ambition of individual players and seek to help them fulfil their potential.
- Stop any behaviour by the players that is likely to lead to an accident or injury.



- Ensure that a first aid kit is present at all training sessions, friendly games and matches.
- Ensure that there is a means of contacting the emergency services in the event of an emergency.
- Completed an accident report form for all injuries, however minor. If any advice is given, it must be noted on the report and if possible signed by the person collecting the child at the end of the session.
- Take to each training session and match:
  - A registers of names
  - Accident forms
  - New starter forms

Coaches should never:

- Exert undue influence to obtain personal benefit or reward.
- Condone violations of the Laws of the Game, behaviour contrary to the spirit of the Laws of the Game or relevant rules and regulations or the use of prohibited substances or techniques.
- Use or tolerate inappropriate or offensive language.
- Physically or verbally abuse or neglect players and actively stop such behaviour between players.
- Leave the group unattended.